

Application No. 10/614,480
Amendment dated January 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2005

REMARKS

Status Of Application

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-20 are pending in the application; the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 2-6 (should read 3-6 as claim 2 is canceled), and 8-20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is noted with appreciation.

Objection to the Title

The objection to the title of the invention as not being descriptive is noted and a new title is presented in this Amendment which is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-10, 13 and 20 have been amended to correct matters of form. These changes are not necessitated by the prior art, are unrelated to the patentability of the invention over the prior art, and do not introduce any new matter.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection

The rejection of claims 1, 3-6, and 8-20 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the

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subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-10, 13 and 20 have been amended to address the informalities cited by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-6, and 8-20 are now fully compliant with 35 U.S.C. §112.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 3-6, and 8-20 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee,

Application No. 10/614,480
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and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's
Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____



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